

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMENBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU'S CALL ON ACTING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY STABLER

1. AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU CALLED ON ACTING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY STABLER ON JUNE 5 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE CYPRUS
PROBLEM FOLLOWING THE MAY 29 UN SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUS-
SIONS ON CYPRUS. DIMITRIOU, WHO WAS NOT UNDER INSTRUC-
TIONS, EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE TURKISH REPRE-
SENTATIVE'S "CRUDE" PERFORMANCE AT THE UN SESSION AND CON-
CERN THAT TURKEY'S RENEWED DEMANDS FOR FEDERALISM WOULD
RESULT IN TOTAL COLLAPSE OF TALKS.

2. STABLER SAID WE DISAPPOINTED THAT TALKS DID NOT GET
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STARTED AS PLANNED BUT HOPEFUL THEY CAN BE RESUMED ON

JUNE 11. WE ARE STRUCK BY THE STRESS GIVEN TO SEMANTICS. OUR HOPE IS THAT SOME OF THIS CAN BE PUT ASIDE IN THE INTERESTS OF CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. STABLER CAUTIONED AGAINST PUTTING TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON STATEMENTS MADE OUTSIDE THE NEGOTIATIONS AND SUGGESTED THAT IF THE TWO COMMUNITIES DECIDED WHAT IT WAS THEY WANTED, THEY COULD PROBABLY GET MAINLAND APPROVAL. STABLER RECOGNIZED THAT THE UN DEBATE MIGHT PRESENT DIFFICULTIES BUT HOPED VARIOUS STATEMENTS WOULD NOT BE DRAMATIZED AND WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD AS BEING INSPIRED BY "INTERNAL REASONS."

3. DIMITRIOU EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MR. STABLER'S FRANKNESS AND HIS VIEWS AND PROMISED TO CONVEY THEM TO HIS GOVERNMENT. BUT, HE REMONSTRATED THAT WHEN OLCAY AND GOT INSIST ON FEDERATION, KNOWING THAT GOC CANNOT POSSIBLY ACCEPT THIS, GOC CANNOT HELP BUT QUESTION WHETHER TURKEY IS STILL INTERESTED IN THE TALKS. DIMITRIOU WAS UNABLE TO SEE HOW CLERIDES COULD ADVISE MAKARIOS TO CONTINUE THE TALKS SINCE THE TURKS HAVE NOT LEFT ANY LEEWAY. STABLER AGAIN STRONGLY URGED PARTIES NOT MAKE SEMANTICS OR PERFORMANCE AT UN A STUMBLING BLOC FOR TALKS' RESUMPTION. THERE IS OF COURSE NO ASSURANCE OF SUCCESS BUT IF TALKS MUST FAIL, LET THEM FAIL ON SUBSTANCE.

4. DIMITRIOU REMARKED BITTERLY HOW HE HAD BEEN REBUFFED ON SEVERAL SOCIAL OCCASIONS BY THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR. THESE WERE INDICATIONS OF THE TURKS' LACK OF GOOD FAITH AND LACK OF SINCERE DESIRE TO SEE THE TALKS SUCCEED. IT WAS A QUESTION OF WILL AND "THERE MUST BE RADICAL CHANGE IN TURKEY'S OUTLOOK AND MENTALITY" BEFORE ANY REAL PROGRESS POSSIBLE.

5. COMMENT: OUR READING OF CYPRUS SITUATION IS THAT LOCAL TALKS MAY WELL BE ON VERGE OF FINAL DISSOLUTION. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES EXPRESSION OF US INTEREST IN MATTER WOULD BE HELPFUL AT THIS POINT. REQUEST EMBASSY ANKARA MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GUNES AND EMBASSY NICOSIA WITH DENKTASH, CLERIDES AND FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES:
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A. US EARNESTLY HOPES TALKS WILL BE RESUMED AS PLANNED ON JUNE 11.

B. WE URGE THE PARTIES INVOLVED TO AVOID STERILE SEMANTIC DISPUTES AND FOCUS THEIR ENERGIES ON THE NEGOTIATION OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

C. THE US CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL TALKS AS THE
BEST PROCEDURE FOR FINDING A LASTING SOLUTION TO THE
CYPRUS PROBLEM. KISSINGER

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